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GENERAL

1. Views on Tito-Cominform rift--US Embassy Moscow, commenting on the curt Soviet note abrogating the Soviet-Yugoslav Mutual Aid Pact, expresses the view that it still further sharpens the Tito-Cominform conflict and its very shortness could be interpreted as designed to clear away legal obstacles to positive action. The Embassy, however, sees no reason for altering its basic estimate concerning the Kremlin's tactics to liquidate Tito by means short of direct military action. The Embassy hazards the guess that this latest Soviet action reflects both the Cominform's failure to goad Tito into taking the initiative in breaking relations with the USSR and the Kremlin's anger over Belgrade's forceful accusations following the Rajk trial in Hungary.

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